The Importance of Tidal Flats in the Kinkowan Bay Ecosystem

Tidal flats play a crucial role in preserving the health of the ocean environment. If tidal flats disappeared, the impact on the ocean, animals, plants, and humans would be devastating.

## 1 - Natural Purification Center

The bivalves, snails, crabs, bristle worms, and other creatures of the tidal flats consume nutrients from the remains of living creatures and other matter, keeping the water and sand clean.

## 2 - Nursery for Ocean Creatures

Large fish cannot enter the shallow waters of tidal flats, making them a safe haven for smaller fish to lay eggs and for fry to mature. Tidal flats are particularly important for these creatures, as without the protection of the shallows they would likely not survive to adulthood.

## 3 - Restaurant for Living Creatures

Many creatures call the tidal flats home, making them an important food source for birds and ocean creatures.

## 4 – Nature's Own Resort

Tidal flats provide a crucial resting place for migrating birds. They are also a place for humans to relax, observe the environment, and swim.